

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A telescopic support including a tube, an elongated element inserted in the tube and formed with a series of ratchets, and a driving and locking device including:

- [I] a locking element including a jaw formed with at least one ratchet and being pivotally installed on the tube;
- [II] a spring provided between the tube and the locking element for biasing the ratchet of the locking element into engagement with the ratchets of the elongated element; and
- [III] a driving element including a jaw formed with at least one ratchet, wherein the driving element can be pivoted on the tube in a direction so as to engage the ratchet thereof with the ratchets of the elongated element and in an opposite direction so as to disengage the ratchet thereof from the ratchets of the elongated element and pivot the locking element for disengaging the ratchet of the locking element from the ratchets of the elongated element.

Claim 2 (original): The telescopic support of claim 1 wherein the elongated element cannot be drew back into the external tube when the ratchet of the locking element is engaged with the ratchets of the elongated element.

Claim 3 (original): The telescopic support of claim 1 wherein the elongated element cannot be extended from the external tube when the ratchet of the locking element is engaged with the ratchets of the elongated element.

Claim 4 (original): The telescopic support of claim 1 further including a spring provided between the tube and the driving element for biasing the ratchet of the driving element from the ratchets of the elongated element.

Claim 5 (original): The telescopic support of claim 1 wherein the locking element includes a lever extending from the jaw thereof.

Claim 6 (original): The telescopic support of claim 1 wherein the driving element includes a lever extending from the jaw thereof.

Claim 7 (original): The telescopic support of claim 1 wherein the locking element includes a lever extending from the jaw thereof, and the driving element includes a lever

extending from the jaw thereof, and the lever of the driving element can contact the lever of the locking element.

Claim 8 (original): The telescopic support of claim 7 wherein the lever of the driving element is formed with a convex portion for contact with the lever of the locking element.

Claim 9 (original): The telescopic support of claim 1 wherein the driving and locking device includes a frame on which the locking element and the driving element are mounted.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A telescopic support including a tube, an elongated element inserted in the tube and formed with a series of ratchets, and a driving and locking device with two sets each including:

[[]] a locking element including a jaw formed with at least one ratchet and being pivotally installed on the tube;

[[]] a spring provided between the tube and the locking element for biasing the ratchet of the locking element into engagement with the ratchets of the elongated element; and

[[]] a driving element including a jaw formed with at least one ratchet, wherein the driving element can be pivoted on the tube in a direction so as to engage the ratchet thereof with the ratchets of the elongated element and in an opposite direction so as to disengage the ratchet thereof from the ratchets of the elongated element and pivot the locking element for disengaging the ratchet of the locking element from the ratchets of the elongated element.

Claim 11 (original): The telescopic support of claim 10 wherein the elongated element cannot be drew back into the external tube when the ratchet of the locking element is engaged with the ratchets of the elongated element.

Claim 12 (original): The telescopic support of claim 10 wherein the elongated element cannot be extended from the external tube when the ratchet of the locking element is engaged with the ratchets of the elongated element.

Claim 13 (original): The telescopic support of claim 10 further including a spring provided between the tube and the driving element for biasing the ratchet of the driving element from the ratchets of the elongated element.

Claim 14 (original): The telescopic support of claim 10 wherein the locking element includes a lever extending from the jaw thereof.

Claim 15 (original): The telescopic support of claim 10 wherein the driving element includes a lever extending from the jaw thereof.

Claim 16 (original): The telescopic support of claim 10 wherein the locking element includes a lever extending from the jaw thereof, and the driving element includes a lever extending from the jaw thereof, and the lever of the driving element can contact the lever of the locking element.

Claim 17 (original): The telescopic support of claim 16 wherein the lever of the driving element is formed with a convex portion for contact with the lever of the locking element.

Claim 18 (original): The telescopic support of claim 10 wherein the driving and locking device includes a frame on which the locking element and the driving element of each of the sets are mounted.

Claim 19 (original): The telescopic support of claim 18 wherein the driving and locking device includes a pinion pivotally installed on the frame, and each of the sets includes a rack extending from the locking element for engagement with the pinion.